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**The Times-Dispatch**

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1913.

**HEALTH AND EFFICIENCY FOR CHILDREN.**

A very wise woman in Sweden called this age "The Century of the Child." The faith held by the world in better people from better children is practically demonstrated by the fourth International Congress on School Hygiene, which meets in Buffalo August 25 to 30. More than 300 educators, scientists, health officers and social workers will take part in this meeting, of which the motto is to improve the health and efficiency of school children.

The main object of this congress is to show the sad condition of the school children in this country, and to plan for remedies. There are 20,000,000 school children in the United States, and it is estimated that at least 15,000,000 need attention for physical defects. The figures are ample proof that we need to take care of the physical child as well as of the mental child if we are to boast of a great school system. In round numbers, 1,600,000 have defective hearing; 5,000,000 strain and suffer with bad eyes; 6,000,000 suffer from malnutrition. For one simple thing, bad teeth, about 50 per cent, or 10,000,000 children, are paying the price of ignorance and neglect in poor health.

These children cannot be taught well, and they are causes of disease in their mates. It is no wonder that Dr. Eliot has accepted the presidency of this conference, and that earnest men and women will gather to present facts and make exhibits of the better ways of making children healthy. They will discuss such important topics as: the engineering and architecture of school buildings, child labor, open-air schools, saving the eyes of the child, sanitation and preventive work in rural schools, care of the mouth and teeth, fatigue and nervousness, school lighting and physical culture.

Sex hygiene will have a special conference, over which Dr. Eliot will preside. The modern methods of feeding school children will be taken up at a special symposium. Luther Gulick, of Stanley Hall, Joseph Lee, and eminent specialists from London, Paris and Germany will take part in the congress. Virginia will be represented by papers on the survey made on the health of the school children of Orange County, under the direction of Dr. Flannagan, of the State Health Department, and Prof. Heck, of the University of Virginia.

Every tender-hearted and wide-voiced citizen must feel deep concern in this united effort to help the child. We believe that the results of such a gathering will spread over the entire country to the upbuilding of a better physical life among those who make the next generation.

**ABOLISH "APPLAUSE"**

Thomas J. Hedlin, Representative from Alabama, some days ago read into the Congressional Record a telegram congratulating him on his determined attitude against woman's suffrage. Shortly afterward Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, where the women have secured suffrage, read the telegram to the House, and insisted that the record be corrected, declaring that after the reading of Mr. Hedlin's congratulatory message there was "loud and prolonged applause" on the Democratic side, which fact was not set forth in the official journal of the proceedings.

"I ask unanimous consent that the record may be corrected by having the words 'loud and prolonged applause' on the Democratic side appear after the telegram," requested the gentleman from Wyoming. He added that at the time referred to there had been loud applause from the Democratic side and "loud and prolonged applause" from the Republican side. At the close of the reading, he protested, there was "loud and prolonged applause" from both sides to the Democratic side of the aisle, and the record should reflect a true record of what occurred in that it does not indicate that fact.

Representative Mondell, of Kansas, sought to make the situation appear worse for the Democrats by adding, "Does not the gentleman also recollect, along with this 'loud and prolonged applause,' that there was laughter?" And Mr. Mondell sat back and added, "I am sure that the gentleman who reads the record will find that there was 'loud and prolonged applause' from both sides to the Democratic side of the aisle, and the record should reflect a true record of what occurred in that it does not indicate that fact."

Representative Mondell, of Kansas, sought to make the situation appear worse for the Democrats by adding, "Does not the gentleman also recollect, along with this 'loud and prolonged applause,' that there was laughter?" And Mr. Mondell sat back and added, "I am sure that the gentleman who reads the record will find that there was 'loud and prolonged applause' from both sides to the Democratic side of the aisle, and the record should reflect a true record of what occurred in that it does not indicate that fact."

The Hardwick position is absolutely correct, for the practice of indicating "applause" in the Congressional Record has lent itself to such abuse that it ought to be ended. Not content with real manifestations of approval noted by the stenographers, members begin their speeches and punctuate them by inserting "applause," "loud and prolonged applause," etc., that actually

never happened. The new member from Arkansas, making his maiden speech to two members and the benches, can take his address and so fill it with "applause" that the reader would believe that the speech was one of the most notable ever made in Congress. The practice is friendly to deceit, and should cease.

**THE HOUSE OF GOVERNORS.**

The Conference of Governors takes place this year at Colorado Springs, its last session having been in Richmond last December. According to its program, it is to deal with the questions of efficiency in State administration, the growth of administrative commissions, distrust of the Legislatures, model laws for the nomination and election of United States Senators, and, last, but not least, uniformity of laws. Those who attended the Richmond conference came to the conclusion that the body seeks to discuss too many subjects, and that more might be accomplished if emphasis were concentrated upon a single topic that could be considered thoroughly. Yet, even with its present policy, the conference has become a notable institution in promoting the intelligent consideration by the several States of the numerous problems which they are all seeking to solve.

The absence of uniformity in State legislation gives rise to many infractions and evasions of the law. That which is unlawful in one State is lawful in the neighboring State, and in this diversity crime finds refuge. The most notorious fault of the lack of uniformity has been in the matter of divorces. It is believed that the Governors' Conference is a force of much power in harmonizing the legislation of the several States on many questions of common interest.

The Baltimore News points out that one of the most important results of these meetings is that they bring together executives from the radical, moderate and conservative States who can exchange opinions and be influenced one by another. "It is fortunate that there are some States in which the people are not afraid to try experiments in government, and the other States get the benefit of a test in practice to help them decide whether they want the same things. A Governor who has a turn for breaking into new paths cannot but gain in balance from contact with men equally thoughtful, perhaps, but not so prone to abandon one method for another. And the experience of a standpat Governor in observing the enthusiasm of other executives is likely to have some effect, however slight."

**A LIBRARY HINT.**

Here is a plain quotation about the opening of the Woodbury Branch of the Denver Public Library. The crowd was too large to permit of addresses, so only a reception was held. Let the Denver Municipal Journal give Richmond a hint:

"The new library, which is pleasantly situated near Highland Park at West Thirty-second Avenue and Federal Boulevard, is in Florentine style and cost approximately \$22,000. The interior finishes are of birch, treated with an acid which gives it a soft, silvery-gray finish. This woodwork will not show the dust and combine harmoniously with the blue and gold frescoed walls.

"The library has 6,000 new books upon its shelves. It is considered one of the handsomest in the city, and was built largely of Denver materials, even the terra cotta work on the exterior having been fashioned here.

"On the first floor of the building there is an assembly-room with a seating capacity of 150, and this will at all times be available for neighborhood meetings. There is also a kitchenette furnished with glass plates, a sink and cupboards, so that refreshments can be prepared."

The question is: Would it not be worth \$22,000 to have such a centre for knowledge and recreation on the Southside, in Chimborazo Park, or on the old Richmond College grounds?

**SIGN LETTERS TO THE TIMES-DISPATCH.**

The Voice of the People column on this page is a department of peculiar interest. It belongs to the people, and is edited by The Times-Dispatch. It is intended to be a forum for free discussion of all themes worth ink and paper. Yet it is very plain that such a column must be conducted by rules. We cannot give all the space to one man, or one theme. We cannot publish a letter from the same man every other day. We cannot do our advertisers, who pay us good rates, the injustice of printing free advertising in this department. We cannot permit any organized propaganda, political or social, to work up a publicity campaign by this avenue.

Especially must we emphasize once more the fact that we do not intend to publish any anonymous communication. The editor of The Times-Dispatch must know the name and address of every person who desires to print his or her opinion in this place. It is easy to attack others under cover of anonymity. We do not demand that the writer's name shall be published, but we do demand that it shall be signed to the communication for our own protection. Unsigned letters will be destroyed.

In order to foster this department and to increase its scope and usefulness as a valuable reflection of public opinion through the State, we make these suggestions. Brevity hath charms. The wise correspondent will state his point sharply and clearly. About 400 words should be the maximum. There is only so much room for a host of applicants. Interminable poems are liable to be returned. Letters containing what the editor deems libelous statements will be edited or returned. Some restraints of common sense and justice will be put on controversy. Frankness is desirable, but there are certain limits beyond which a paper intended for home reading cannot go.

In conclusion, The Times-Dispatch cannot guarantee the safety of manuscripts, though every possible effort is

made to protect the writer. Nor can we guarantee the publication of any letter on a specified date. Letters will be published in the order received as nearly as possible, unless the editor sees fit to print a communication on account of its timeliness or for the purpose of comment. In a negro paper recently appeared a complaint that we did not print letters from colored readers. The communication referred to had been set in type, and is still waiting its regular turn.

Once more, unsigned letters will be destroyed. Others will receive courtesy and justice.

**THE QUIET MILLIONAIRES.**

The case of Anthony N. Brady, of New York, serves to illustrate afresh the fact that there are many millionaires whose existence is not generally known. A former financial adviser of Brady values his estate at a minimum of \$75,000,000, adding that it might prove to exceed \$100,000,000. Brady is said to have had more than \$50,000,000 in tobacco alone. His holdings in Brooklyn Rapid Transit stock amounted to about \$8,000,000. In Tennessee and Georgia power properties he is said to have had investments worth \$10,000,000, and during the past few years he had put between \$5,000,000 and \$7,000,000 into Japanese lighting plants, especially in Tokyo.

Here was a man practically unheard of beside Rockefeller and Morgan, and yet he was one of the wealthiest men in the country. Nobody thought of associating his name with a panic. He belonged to a small company of obscure millionaires. There is no telling how many of these there are. A few years ago a great lumberman came out of the Northwest with a gigantic fortune. He was Frederick Weyerhaeuser, a plodding, money-hoarding German, and he is said to have had more money than Rockefeller. He made it so quietly that no one suspected it.

These millionaires, from modesty, desire to conceal or aversion to publicity, make little display of their riches. They are content to live quietly, and their true status is not revealed until they die.

**ONLY THREE STATE ELECTIONS.**

Virginia, Massachusetts and New Jersey are the only three States which this year elect their Governors. Next year thirty-nine States choose their executives.

The Virginia primary is already over, as everybody "around these parts" is aware. In Massachusetts, the situation is decidedly complex, since the "Progressives" are better organized there than elsewhere, and because "The Bay State voter is very independent at the polls and has grown more so of late." In New Jersey unusual interest will be attached to the campaign because of its connection with President Wilson. The policies initiated by him will be at issue.

Philip J. Roosevelt, cousin of the Colonel, who sailed lately from New York for a seven weeks' bicycle trip through Europe, is taking with him Macaulay's "History of England"; "A Tramp Abroad"; Darwin on "The Origin of Species"; "Paradise Lost"; "The Swiss Family Robinson"; Hudson's "The Law of Psychic Phenomena"; and a set of Kipling. Which will he read first?

"Mr. Tank Badger's house at Birdston is newly painted," says the Northampton Times. We add Tank to the list of progressive Virginians.

On Irvington Place, Denver, 63,256 dandelions were picked by the neighborhood children in a contest. This shows the right civic spirit, but we will wager \$367,342 dandelion leaves were picked for greens this spring by Richmond dandies for no prizes save the eating of the "salad" and the drinking of the pot-luck.

A worn, much-thumbed copy of Mary Johnston's "To Have and to Hold" is being exhibited in London among the relics of the ill-fated Scott expedition. By the chance of a poetical fate, when found in the explorer's tent, the volume was opened at the chapter, "We Go Out Into the Night."

American copper miners turned out 218,579,133 pounds of copper last year. Of this all but the odd 579,132 pounds was used for pennies to relieve possible stringency in the moving-picture and ice-cream cone markets.

The backbone of summer may be broken, but some of the leftover vertebrae are certainly sizzling.

We imagine this coming winter will be very lively if the militant suffragettes and aeroplanes tango together.

Anyhow, the U. S. succeeded in putting the "A" in Land.

Wonder how the Atlantic and Pacific will mix?

The Danville "Speedometer"—the instrument what Registers the speed of the machine y'know—comes out boldly with this aftermath pronouncement: "Our deliberate judgment is that Mr. Cumming will take rank as high or higher than either of his opponents as a lawyer." Step up, sub, and take your rank, and may it be both high and consolation. Slow music, Mr. Rand.

Maybe Joe Boellingh could come back and pitch eleven games for the Colts.

Moving pictures may be all right in the other parks, but the devotees of the Capitol Square benches are all content with still-life exhibitions.

It's no use, folks, Virginia is doomed. When things get so cataclysmic that the Williamsburg Gazette prints this blunt, unvarnished statement, we pull down the flag and hunt a hole. The other weak places will be bolstered up and carried along until Virginia shall again be able to rid itself of the dead wood that clings to her like grave clothes. To carry along a lot of bolstered-up weak places till our wooden ceremonies drop off is too, too much. The jig's up.

## On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

**Signs of the Times.**

They are doing more tricks with alfalfa than a monkey can do with a coconut. It remains for some genius to invent an alfalfa tea which will cure rheumatism, lumbago, sleeping sickness, corns, bunions, appendicitis, color-blindness, springhalt, spavin, stiff neck, falling hair, erysipelas, hay fever, housemaid's knee and baldness. A nutcracker is to be able to get a dollar a bottle for that.

To judge by the proud look upon the face of the young man who has just been admitted to membership in a Greek letter fraternity, you would never think that nearly all of the genuine Greeks are engaged in running shoe-shining stands.

Evidently lobbyist in Washington is never going to reach the point where a man can drop a nickel in the slot and get a bill passed.

"Is there anything wrong with your car?" asks the gentlemanly and courteous dealer from whom you bought it. "If there is, I wish you would tell me that, for I am sure you will. And tell the truth, you must have him on a trip to Europe, lasting three months, where you can have him all alone, away from business. In that length of time, you must inevitably tell him nearly all that you have on your mind."

**The Diney of a Househead.**

"It is so cool down at my cottage at the resort that I have to sleep under three blankets every night and we never keep ice at all. We just set the milk and the beer out on the back porch and it keeps perfectly cold. In fact, the beer gets too cold. It freezes."

It was an ancient gag that Jones sprung on me yesterday, and I had fallen for it before, so had that anybody but a chump would have known better than to try it again. However, accepted Jones's invitation. It was blistering hot in town, and even if Jones was only ten per cent truthful, his place had town skinned a long statute mile.

We arrived at the resort at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the rocking chair dowagers had been driven to the basements of their houses for a breath of air. It was so cool at the resort that the children were frying eggs on the cement sidewalks just as a matter of course.

It was so cool that a cigarette Jones held in his mouth while he fumbled around for the key to his cottage ignited itself.

It was so cool at that resort that a box of safety matches from Sweden caught fire in the pocket of my outing flannel coat and I had to go and jump in the lake to extinguish the flames.

I shall never forget that night. I never saw the three blankets that Jones claimed to have slept under. I don't believe there were ever three blankets in the whole resort.

Jones gave me a room up under the roof, which had caught the full glare of the sun all day.

"It is a little warm up here to-night," he apologized. "I can't understand it. It never happened before."

"So far as I am concerned," I replied with a feeble effort at repartee, "it will never happen again."

The longer I stayed in that bedroom the hotter it got. It was just as comfortable as the interior of a kvas oven when the hired girl is doing her weekly baking.

After spending one hour in that room the future punishment had no terrors for me.

At 1 o'clock in the morning, clad in a pair of blue silk pajamas and a forlorn but hopeful smile, I ran and jumped into the lake. There I found Jones, sitting in the bath tub, with his neck and smoking his pipe.

Conversation from then on until daylight was so difficult that it finally died out entirely, and at 5 o'clock I went and caught the night train for the hot, stuffy city, which seemed like the refrigerating plant of a brewery after I reached it from Jones's pet resort.

All through that horrible, breathless, scorching night at this "beautiful cool resort," swept by constant lake breezes, I had been thinking of my own comfortable out-of-doors sleeping porch in town and the numerous inconveniences I had in the way of electric fans, etc., which were used for the purpose of keeping cool.

The first thing I did upon arriving in town was to purchase three blankets and send them to Jones. As a liar Jones should be 100 per cent efficient. If I read him right.

I hate a poor liar and a poor resort liar is, in my estimation, the lowest form of animal life. If I ever go to a resort in hot weather again it will be because a rich uncle has died there and my presence is requested to hear the will read.

## Voice of the People

**Wants Progressive Party in Virginia.**

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I am a farmer and constant reader of your very valuable paper. I think it is a great pity your paper is not published in the State of Virginia, you are throwing so much indispensable light on the political situation as it exists in Virginia today. If the balance of the papers of Virginia could be made to read like the Times-Dispatch in this respect there would be no more need of a party.

## FLIES!

Horse manure is the principal breeding place for flies.

It can be made sterile with coal oil, carbolic acid, copperas water or dry lye by mixing thoroughly.

Horsemen, stablemen, owners of horses and sanitary inspectors, pay attention! Cut this out.

Let 1913 be a flyless year.

## Abe Martin

"Th' many friends o' Cy Peters 'll be glad t' learn that his wife has run away. Cy is an ole town boy that begun with nothin' and worked up like a sensational story. What we want in Democratic ticket, led by the head machinist at Washington. The writer has never voted any other than a Democratic ticket."

ROCK-RIBBED DEMOCRAT.  
Richmond.

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ROCK-RIBBED DEMOCRAT.  
Richmond.

## CAN HE FINISH THE GAME?



## QUERIES & ANSWERS

**Mr. Webb.**

In that great school, the University of Virginia, and under that great teacher, Dr. Holmes, I was taught that Gibbon was a master of English style, and it is no pleasant thing for me to see a modern newspaper refer to him as "clumsy and awkward and slouching," as you did in the Queries and Answers a few days ago.

**L. L. L.**

Our friend's favorite school and his favorite teacher might be "great" if measured by some standards, and not so if measured by some others. The matter of opinion, matter of which the Gibbon is a master of English style, and it is no pleasant thing for me to see a modern newspaper refer to him as "clumsy and awkward and slouching," as you did in the Queries and Answers a few days ago.

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## VIEWS OF THE VIRGINIA EDITORS

**A Noted Bird.**

Page Count's famous turkey gobler who, despondent with the rapid growth of woman suffrage, thought it his duty to assume the maternal duties of the hen, has quit his job. The pathetic story of the gobler's domestic trials was recently told by the Page News and Courier, which related how the fowl, belonging to one John W. Long, disappeared from his usual haunts, and was found a few days later in a grass field sitting on a nest of turkey eggs.

Many were the editorial comments on the proposition. It seems a pity that the gobler did not, for the sake of the curious world, push his exploit to the bitter end. Happenings that are unheard of elsewhere have their habitat in Page, and any sort of this week informs us that the gobler has thrown up his job and that he is now trying to hatch the eggs. Is this prophetic?—Harrisonburg News-Record.

## Additional Service

The service of the National State and City Bank is not by any means limited to ordinary banking facilities.

In addition, the bank handles Foreign Exchange of all kinds and issues Letters of Credit and Travelers' Checks, which afford a convenient method of handling money while traveling.

## National State and City Bank

1111 East Main Street